A CATALOGUE

OF THE

DRAWINGS, MINIATURES, CAMEOS,

AND OTHER OBJECTS OF ART,

ILLUSTRATIVE OF

THE BONAPARTE FAMILY,

AND THE PRINCIPAL PERSONS CONNECTED WITH THE

REPUBLIC AND EMPIRE OF FRANCE,

NOW IN THE COLLECTION OF

JOHN MATHER, ESQ.,

OF MOUNT PLEASANT, LIVERPOOL:

ARRANGED, AND ILLUSTRATED BY A SHORT HISTORY OF THAT EVENTFUL PERIOD,

BY

JOSEPH MAYER, F.S.A., F.R.A.S.,

AND EXHIBITED AT THE

Soiree given by the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire

TO THE

BRITISH ASSOCIATION,

ON THEIR

MEETING IN CONGRESS AT LIVERPOOL, SEPTEMBER 27, 1854.

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CATALOGUE.

No. 1.—Charles Buonaparte, the father of Napoleon.
This miniature formerly belonged to Louis Napoleon, and is the only likeness known of the grandfather of the present Emperor. Artist unknown.

2.—Letitia Ramolino, the wife of Charles Buonaparte, afterwards styled Madam Mere—the Empress Mother. Painted by Dun.

3.—Napoleon Buonaparte, in the costume of a military student, when he was at Brienne. Artist unknown.

4. Josephine, wife of Napoleon Buonaparte, in the costume which she wore when at Martinique. Painted by Hollier, after Robert Lefevre.

5.—Eugene Beauharnais, the only son of Josephine. Painted by Isaby.

6.—Hortense Beauharnais, daughter of Josephine, married to Louis Bonaparte, King of Holland, and mother of the present Emperor Napoleon III. Painted by Felicia Varlet.

7.—Cross of Legion of Honour.

8.—Napoleon as Emperor, with laureated head, and wearing the gold Collar of Eagles, to which appended the Star of the Legion of Honour, over a mantle of purple, powdered with gold bees, having a collar of ermine. Painted by Isaby.

9.—Pauline, the second sister of Napoleon, married to the Prince Camille Borghese in 1803.

10.—Caroline, the youngest sister of Napoleon, married to Joachim Murat.

11.—Joachim Murat, as Grand Admiral of France.

12.—Jerome Buonaparte.

13.—Joseph Buonaparte, eldest brother of Napoleon, as King of Naples.

14.—Jerome, youngest brother of Napoleon, King of Westphalia. By Isaby.

15.—King of Bavaria.

16.—Catherine, Princess of Wurtemburg, wife of Jerome Bonaparte, King of Westphalia. An enamel set in a snuff-box.

17.—Joseph Buonaparte, as King of Spain, formerly King of Naples, in his royal robes.

18.—Maria Louisa, Princess of Austria.

19.—Francis II., Emperor of Austria, father-in-law of Napoleon.

20.—The Empress Josephine. An enamel, after the original by the celebrated painter, Isaby.

Isaby had used to relate, that whilst Josephine was sitting for her miniature, one morning he asked her what jewels she would be painted in, and she, with a most melancholy and sweet expression of countenance, looked at him, and with tears trembling on the edges of her eyelids, but which, with her heroic womanly love, she forbade to fall, said, "I am about to change my state, and I have heard it said it is a custom in England, that when a true heart is severed from that it loves, and had become its idol, that the women wear green, to denote to their friends that they are forsaken: paint me also in emeralds, to represent the undying freshness of my grief, but let them be surrounded with diamonds to pourtray the purity of my love." This was to Isaby a mystery, and so much affected was he by the simplicity of her manner, that he dared not ask an explanation, though he soon learned from rumour the truth of the meaning; for at this very time Napoleon had asked from the Emperor of Austria the hand of Maria Louisa, and had, at the solicitation of Josephine, given her that suit of jewels in which she went to the levee at the Tuilleries for the last time as the wife of Napoleon.

21.—Napoleon and Maria Louisa, in profile, face to face. A cameo in onyx.

22.—Napoleon in his imperial robes, as worn on the day of his marriage with Maria Louisa at the Palace of the Tuilleries, in April 1811. An enamel, after Isaby, by Madam Brochart.

23.—The Young King of Rome. An enamel by Constantine.

24.—Joachim Murat. By Isaby.

25.—Alexander, Emperor and Commander-in-Chief of all the Russias.

26.—Napoleon. Painted at Elba by Isaby.

27.—Lucien Buonaparte.

28.—Murat, in the dress he wore at the time he was shot at Pizzo in Calabria, Oct. 13, 1815. An enamel by Madam Brochart.

29.—Caroline, wife of Murat, sister of Napoleon.

30.—Letitia Buonaparte, eldest daughter of Joseph Buonaparte, married her cousin Charles, son of the Prince of Canino.

31.—Letitia, third daughter of Lucien, brother of Napoleon, married Mr. Thomas Wyse, M. P.

32.—Eugene Beauharnais, ex-Viceroy of Italy, Prince of Eichstadt.

33.—Bernadotte, King of Sweden.

34.—Napoleon II., ex-King of Rome, only son of Napoleon I. and the Empress Maria Louisa, died 1832, an officer in the Austrian service, and called the Duke of Reichstadt.

35.—An Enamel Miniature. The Emperor Napoleon in his robes, having on a golden chaplet in form of laurel leaves.

36.—The young King of Rome. Painted just prior to the abdication of Napoleon. Miniature by Isaby.

37.—A Ring, having the head of Napoleon.

38.—A Brooch, with the head of Josephine. These two last miniatures were presented to an Ambassador to the Court of the Tuilleries at the marriage of the Emperor.

39.—A Head of the Emperor Napoleon laureated, and in the style of the Roman Emperors. It is cut on a large-sized onyx in very high relief.

40.—Josephine, wearing a coronet, necklace, and earrings formed of large pearls, and her dress made of rich satin, with stripes of gold, and large frill epaulettes of the same. An oval miniature, by Saint.

41.—A large round miniature. The sabre-cut on his nose proclaims it to be the "Bravest of the Brave"—Ney, in his Marshal's uniform.

42.—The Eagle of Napoleon standing on the thunderbolt of Jupiter, from which issues the forked lightning of power. This formerly ornamented one of the Chairs at the Imperial Palace of the Tuilleries.

43.—A miniature of the Empress Josephine, wearing a superb suit of pearls and emeralds, and habited in a rich lace dress trimmed with gold.

44.—A Snuff-box made of tortoise-shell, having on the top a likeness of the Princess of Moscow, Madam Ney. She appears in the costume of the day, in low dress, with a veil, and loose ringlets of hair hanging on her shoulders. Painted by Augustin An.

45.—A Snuff-box of tortoise-shell, with miniature of Madame Ney, wife of Murat, King of Naples, 1812. Painted by Augustin, 1808.

46.—A Snuff-box lined with gold, with portrait of JOSEPHINE in an oval, round which is a border composed of her hair. This was left by her to Madame Ney, and bears an inscription inside the lid:

"Mort a Malmaison
Le 29 Mai 1814
dans sa 50me Annee."

47. An oval miniature of JOSEPHINE, as she appeared before the elevation to the Empire. She wears a band formed of three rows of pearls round her head, and two rows of the same on her neck, with a single row set in her golden girdle, and has on a very large ruff or frill.

48.—Marshal KELLERMAN. By Guerin.

49.—Marshal AUGEREAU.

50.—Marshal BESSIERES, Duc d'Istrie, 1810.

51.—ISABY, when a young man. Painted by himself.

52.—LOUIS PHILIPPE, King of France, in a military uniform. An enamel.

53.—Prince LEOPOLD of Saxe-Coburg, aide-du-camp to Napoleon, now King of Belgium.

54.—The Princess ELIZABETH, sister of Louis XVI. She was guillotined.

The miniature is set with a gold back, on which is engraved the following inscription:—

"Portrait de Madame Elizabeth
de France,
Donné par Monsieur Frere
du Roi, a Madame la
Marquise de Buckingham,
Août 1797.

55.—Madame la Duchesse d'ABRANTES.

56.—Madame ROSALBE.

57.—Madame de GUALT.

58.—BARRY D'ANGLA. By Hoff.

59.—CHARETTE, General.

60.—LAVOISIER.

61.—SANTERRE, General of the National Guards.

62.—NAPOLEON and MARIA LOUISA. A cameo in sardonix.

The head of the Emperor wears a chaplet of laurel leaves, tied at the back of the head with a ribbon; the whole formed of diamonds, and set in gold. The Empress wears a diadem of diamonds, and has a vandyked frill or ruff also studded with the same precious gem; whilst Napoleon wears the toga, the knot on the shoulder having the letter N, and on his right breast is his favourite badge, the Bee. Between the two busts is the head of the young King of

Rome. This beautiful cameo forms the centre of a superb gold box of an oblong form, having a border of lapis lazuli running round the outer edge, and within a line of purple enamel are four bees, the wings and head formed of small diamonds, and the body of each insect composed of a beautifully-coloured opal; the back and sides of the box are very beautifully enchased with scrolls and other devices, and in the centre compartment are two cornucopias holding flowers, which rise conjointly out of a scroll of rich design, formed of the acanthus leaf and roses.

63.—A sardonix cameo, bearing a portrait of the Emperor NAPOLEON.

The head and bust, having the laurel wreath and toga with the N and bee, are covered with diamonds, and the whole is surrounded with a row of larger diamonds. This ring was the joint present of Napoleon and Maria Louisa to the Princess de Moscova, wife of Marshal Ney, and the snuff-box, No. 62, was at the same time given to the Prince of Moscow, Marshal Ney.

64.—A suit of onyx cameos formerly belonging to JOSEPHINE, to whom they were presented by the Emperor NAPOLEON.

The tiara or head ornament has the busts of Tiberius, Galba, Titus, Vespasian, Domitilla, Domitia, and Julia Titi; the brooch bears the figure of the wolf suckling Romulus and Remus; the two bracelets are ornamented with antique masks, having a male and female head, which form the clasps; the girdle clasp has the heads of Plotina and Marciana, united with two hands joined; the earrings have Cupids' heads for the tops, and busts of Hadrian and Salina form the drops; the ring has a bust of Jupiter Serapis set on the top of it; the necklace contains the heads of Nero, Vitellius, Galba, Otho, Domitian, Augustus, Livia, Julia, Agrippina, ————, and Poppea, with the head of Medusa to form the clasp, the whole are set in borders of black and white enamel, with scrolls of gold work. The cameos were cut by Girometti, of Rome.

65.—The badge of the order of "Onore e fidelita"—on the obverse side the head of MURAT, with legend "Gioaccpino Re di Napoli."

Four allegorical classic drawings by Lafitte, emblematic of the Union of FRANCE and AUSTRIA in the persons of the Emperor NAPOLEON and MARIA LOUISA; as follows:—

66.—The First—The Arrival of MARIA LOUISA in Paris.

The Emperor Napoleon and the Archduchess appear in the centre; an allegorical figure of France is seated on a pedestal; the several parts of the state, indicated by their costume, present their homage to the illustrious pair; a group of elegant females follow the Empress, and the warriors of Austria, in company with those of France, form the left of the composition; the whole of which is arranged in a most beautiful and classic manner.

67.—The Second—The UNION.

France and Austria, surrounded by attributes, are joining hands at the altar of peace, in sign of alliance. On the right is a term supporting the heads of Janus, and a biga, in which is the figure of Maria Louisa, conducted by Love; a genius, to whom Time is dictating, inscribes on a tablet the year of this happy occurrence. On the left is a palm-tree bearing trophies, at the foot of which is the Genius of the Seine, holding a cornucopia, and children dancing

round her; Fame is announcing to the world the consummation of the alliance, and pouring out from a horn fruits and flowers, to indicate that prosperity and pleasure will be the result.

68.—The Third—The Triumph of NAPOLEON and MARIA LOUISA on their Re-union.

The Arts, Sciences, Commerce, and the consequences of their encouragement—the prosperity and happiness of the people—are shewn under their several allegories, as the result; a bust of Cybele on a term at the foot, on which the Genius of France, with her children and the emblems of plenty, are reposing, signifies that the beneficial effects of the union are felt to the utmost boundary of the empire.

69.—The Fourth—The prosperity of the Empire of FRANCE.

The Emperor and his Consort, Maria Louisa, seated in a grand hall or saloon, are surrounded by allegorical figures, indicating the progress of the arts, the consolidation of the laws, and the general happiness and glory of the Empire. Terminal busts, significative of the several divisions of the administration, are seen in the compartments at the back of the Imperial pair; and a genius is inscribing on a tablet the anticipated results of the glorious endeavours of Napoleon.

70.—An enamelled Brooch, containing a lock of hair, which was given to B. H. Ross, Captain of H. M. S. Northumberland, by NAPOLEON himself, at St. Helena.

71.—HENRY VIII. and his Six Wives.

72.—CATHARINE of ARRAGON.

73.—ANNE BOLEYN.

74.—ANN of CLEVES.

75.—CATHARINE HOWARD.

76.—JANE SEYMOUR.

77.—CATHARINE PARR.

78.—A series of Ninety-six Enamels, representing subjects from the Poets and Historians.

Amongst which are Cupid and Psyche, Dido and Æneas, Alexander and Cleomenes, the Cumœan Sybil, Achilles and Briseus, Coriolanus and his Family, Saul and David, Paris carrying off Helen, Mars and Venus, Astronomy, Music, Painting, Peace, Justice, Ariadne, Hope, Fishing, &c. &c.

79.—HENRIETTA STUART, daughter of Charles I., afterwards the Duchess of Orleans. An enamel on gold, by Petitot.

80.—Madame de SEVIGNE. An enamel, by Petitot.

81.—The Duchesse de LAVALLEIRE. An enamel, by Petitot.

82.—Madame TURENNE. By Petitot.

83.—GEORGIANA, Duchess of Devonshire, the celebrated electioneering beauty. An enamel, by Horace Hone, A. R. A.

84.—A cameo of GEORGE IV., formerly appended to one of the orders of knighthood.

85.—A Miniature of MOLIERE, in enamel.

86.—EUROPA. A painting on the top of a snuff-box.

87.—A Miniature of Mrs. JORDAN, as "Flora."

[The two following are the property of DANIEL MATHER, Esq.]

88.—A gold and enamelled Snuff-box, with the miniature of the Countess of COVENTRY (one of the three Miss Gunnings, called "The Graces").

89.—A Snuff-box, with the miniature of Lady WORSLEY.

THE BONAPARTE FAMILY.

During the dark period of the Middle Ages, a family of eminence, enjoying the rank of nobility, flourished in Tuscany, whence its branches spread into other of the minor states of Italy. A Grecian origin has been ascribed by genealogists to this family, whose name on settling in Italy was changed from *Calomeros* into the synonyme *Buonaparte*, by which it was subsequently known. Such is the origin of the Buonaparte family; of whom it is distinctly known that they occupied a respectable place among the lesser Italian nobility, until dispersed by that long and disastrous civil war which ensued on the struggle between secular powers, and which is typified in the ferocious antagonism of the Guelfs and Ghibellines. The Buonapartes, like many other families of name and eminence, were now scattered in the homes of their birth or adoption; and whilst a remnant still lingered in the basin of the Apennines, the last relic of which survived at the close of the eighteenth century in the person of an old ecclesiastic, a wealthy canon of the Abbey of San-Miniato, the chief of the stock took refuge in the small island of Corsica, and settled at Ajaccio, among whose rude nobility his descendants were enrolled, and admitted to all the privileges then accorded to that jealous distinction. At that period Corsica was under the tutelary sovereignty of the republic of Genoa, but in 1768 it and its small dependencies passed under the dominion of the crown of France, despite the heroic efforts of the celebrated Paoli to preserve the independence of its sterile mountains.

After its final subjugation, Corsica was assimilated in its internal administration to the other provinces of France, and had provincial states composed of the three orders of nobility, clergy, and commonalty or third estate. It likewise preserved a supreme magistracy of twelve nobles, in whom the government of the country was vested; and to this high tribunal Charles Buonaparte (No. 1) was attached as assessor, a place preparatory to his elevation into the Council. This Charles was the only son of Joseph Buonaparte, the eldest of three brothers, the two other of whom died without male issue. He inherited the family property, which was not very considerable, consisting of a house in Ajaccio, and a small estate on the shore of the island, where was a villa which served as a summer residence. As is usual in southern climates, he married at the early age of nineteen, and won for his wife from numerous competitors the reigning beauty of Corsica, the young Letitia Ramolino (No. 2), who was remarkable not only for her personal charms, but also for the courage and fortitude of her character. In 1779 the *noblesse* elected him the deputy of their order to the court of Versailles, and in this capacity he was obliged to make frequent

journeys into France, which, notwithstanding the liberal grants he received from the government of Louis XVI., appear to have reduced his fortune within the narrowest limits; for upon his death at Montpellier in 1785, whither he had repaired in the vain hope of being relieved from the malady which afflicted him—cancer in the stomach—he left his widow in very straitened circumstances, and dependent in a great measure for the support and education of her children on their uncle the Archdeacon Lucien, who was head of the chapter of Ajaccio, and who cheerfully undertook to perform the part of father to the bereaved orphans.

These were no fewer than eight in number, the survivors of thirteen whom the fruitful Letitia had borne to her husband, although, at the time of his death, she had not completed her thirty-fifth year. Five were sons, and three daughters, the eldest of whom, Joseph, was seventeen years old, and the youngest, Jerome, only two months. The second son was Napoleon, the third Lucien, and the fourth Louis; the three daughters were Marianna Eliza, Pauline, and Caroline, also called Annonciada, who was nearly three years old at the death of her father. In his visits to France, Charles Buonaparte had taken with him his two eldest sons for the benefit of their education; Joseph being placed in a school at Autun, with the view of following the ecclesiastical profession under the patronage of Marbœuf, Archbishop of Lyons, brother of the governor of Corsica, who, as a friend of the family, was on his part instrumental in procuring the introduction of Napoleon into the military school of Brienne (No. 3), whence he was afterwards removed to that of Paris. The second son was always a favourite with his father, who delighted to regard him as the future hero of his race; and the young Napoleon himself was fondly attached to an indulgent parent, whose loss he long deplored, regretting, above all, that the mournful consolation of attending his deathbed had been denied to him, which fell, on the contrary, to the lot of Joseph and the Abbé Fesch, a half brother of their mother. In the succeeding years, Lucien likewise received his education at Brienne and at Aix in Provence; and when the mighty era of 1789 dawned, all the sons were assembled in Corsica, where the cause of the Revolution was from the first embraced by its inhabitants with the greatest ardour. The young Buonapartes were among its most eager partizans; and Lucien, in particular, who was only sixteen years of age, distinguished himself as an orator in the popular clubs of the island. Joseph had abjured the priestly calling, and having entered into the civil service of the department, was enabled to assist his mother in the management and maintenance of the family. Napoleon held a commission from the king of France as a lieutenant of artillery, and was remarkable chiefly for his love of solitude and the laborious studies in which he passed his time. Already he had ceased to look upon Corsica as his country; its incorporation with France opened to him a wider theatre for the play of his aspiring spirit, and he readily merged paternal patriotism in the greater call to partake the dangers and the glories of the new competition about to rise from the crash of feudalism.

It was very different with the old patriot of the island—Paoli. As a venerated champion of freedom, the National Assembly of France had invited him to return from his long exile in England; and in 1792 he re-appeared among his countrymen with all the lustre of a name endeared to them by his services and his sufferings. He was hailed with a boundless enthusiasm, especially by the mountaineers, who revered him as their tutelary chief; but even in Ajaccio he was received with triumph, and Lucien Buonaparte records with exultation that he pronounced a discourse before him which drew tears from the honoured veteran by its touching

pathos. So lively, indeed, was the impression made upon him by this fervent orator, that Paoli took him to his residence of Rostino, and kept him near his person for many months, during which he sought to instil into the mind of his pupil, as the latter himself relates with grief, that England was the only land of real freedom, and the British constitution far superior to any the legislators of France were likely to invent. Notwithstanding his veneration for the patriotic sage, Lucien was too zealous for the credit of France and the virtue of republicanism to admit the force of this doctrine, and he began to entertain suspicions of the orthodoxy of Paoli in the precepts of the revolutionary code. This first alarm soon mounted into certainty, when the execution of Louis XVI. aroused the indignation of the virtuous patriot, and stirred him to an open denunciation of the sanguinary monsters who were disgracing the sacred cause of liberty. Paoli declared he would no longer belong to France, neither he nor his brave mountaineers; and he called upon the sons of his old companion in the war of independence, Charles Buonaparte, to join him in a fresh struggle against a more terrible tyranny than had ever yet oppressed the island. But to this appeal the Buonapartes were deaf, for their ambition lay in the very opposite direction; and Paoli, having summoned around him an army of mountaineers, prepared to march on Ajaccio, which was the only town that had refused, at his command, to lower the tricolour flag. His rage was principally directed against the Buonapartes, if we are to credit Lucien, and he ordered them to be taken *dead or alive.* Joseph and Napoleon were both absent at this critical moment; Lucien, too, had proceeded to France as the head of a deputation to crave succours from the Jacobins; but the heroic Letitia, who had in earlier days fought by the side of her husband, was fully equal to the task of providing for the safety of her numerous progeny. In the dead of night she was aroused by intelligence of the approach of her exasperated enemy, who was intent, above all, to seize her person as a hostage for the submission of her sons; and escorted by a village chieftain named Costa, she hastened from the city to seek refuge in the fastnesses of the hills and forests. Amidst a small band of faithful followers she marched with her young children under the shade of darkness, and before daylight reached a secluded spot on the sea-shore, whence from an elevation she could see her house in flames. Undaunted by the sad spectacle, she exclaimed, 'Never mind, we will build it up again much better: *Vive la France!*' After a concealment of two days and nights in the recesses of the woods, the fugitives were at length gladdened by the sight of a French frigate, on board of which were Joseph and Napoleon with the deputies of the Convention on a mission to Corsica. In this vessel the whole party at once embarked, and as no hope remained of finding security in Corsica, it was straightway steered for France. Marseilles was its port of destination, and there it accordingly landed the family of exiles, destitute of every remnant of property, but unbroken, it would seem, in courage and health. Madame Buonaparte was fain to receive with thankfulness the rations of bread distributed by the municipality to refugee patriots. Joseph speedily received an appointment as a commissary of war; and he and Napoleon contributed to the support of the family from their scanty allowances.

It was in the early period of the Reign of Terror, that Letitia Buonaparte and her children took up their abode in France, which was at this time a prey to all the horrors of civil war, as well as to the dangers of a foreign invasion. The principal cities of the Republic had revolted against the central authority of Paris and the bloody domination of the Jacobins, and among the rest Marseilles was distinguished in the great

federalist movement. But the reduction of Lyons, and the terrible vengeance inflicted on it, restored the supremacy of the redoubtable Committee of Public Safety. Many thousands of the inhabitants of Marseilles fled in terror on the approach of the Jacobin forces, and sought protection in Toulon, which had not only cast off the yoke of the Convention, but called in the aid of the British and Spanish fleets to uphold the desperate cause of royalty. In this general flight, however, the Buonapartes did not participate, since they in truth belonged to the triumphant faction.

This was a connection which may principally be ascribed to Lucien, who had recommended himself to an administrative appointment at St. Maximin, a small town a few leagues distant from Marseilles. Here he assumed the name of *Brutus*, and in conjunction with a monk, who styled himself *Epaminondas*, exercised a petty dictatorship, filling the prisons with unfortunate victims, as suspected royalists and aristocrats. But it is his boast that, with unlimited power in his hands, and at so youthful an age, he shed no blood, notwithstanding the influence of the examples around him. He even opposed the mandate of the commissioners, sent by the Convention to restore its authority at Marseilles, for the removal of his prisoners to be tried or rather guillotined at Orange—an act which exposed him to the anger of the commissioners, Barras, and Fréron, and nevertheless failed to save him from the imputation of being a *Terrorist* when the day of reaction arrived. In this revolutionary career Lucien was of service to his family: Joseph, who continued to reside at Marseilles with his mother, was of too mild and unobtrusive a character to gain credit with the powers of Jacobinism, whilst Napoleon was as yet an unknown subaltern, jostling among the crowd of rivals for preferment. In the person of the Abbé Fesch, indeed, who had accompanied his sister in her exile, the positive danger was incurred of harbouring a priest, then the most obnoxious of all delinquents to popular wrath. However, when the portents of the storm were gathering, the abbé prudently discarded his clerical robe, and sought a safer calling as a keeper of stores in the army of General Montesquiou, who, in the autumn of 1793, overran the country of Savoy. It was at a later period of the same year that an event occurred which laid the foundation of mighty changes, involving not only the Corsican refugees in their effects, but deranging the destinies of all the nations of Christendom.

Toulon alone of all the revolted cities still held out against the victorious banner of the Republic. General Carteaux was despatched to undertake the siege at the head of a large force, amounting to 30,000 men of all arms; but carrying on the operations with less vigour than suited the impatience of the sovereign Committee, he was displaced and succeeded by Dugommier, who had been provided by the celebrated Carnot with a detailed plan for his guidance in the reduction of the place. But during the temporary absence of the senior officer in command, and in a happy moment of inspiration, Dugommier confided the charge of the artillery to the young engineer of Ajaccio, who had been recently promoted to a colonelcy of brigade, and who recommended a plan of operations so much more feasible than the one dictated by the Committee, that it was at once adopted, with the preliminary sanction, nevertheless, of the Representatives on mission with the army. This plan consisted in carrying the more distant forts which commanded the harbour of Toulon, instead of pursuing the attack against the main body of the place, and which promised the advantage of either insuring the destruction of the hostile fleet, or of compelling it hastily to remove out of range of the guns. In either case, the reduction of Toulon was certain and immediate without much waste of blood, since it would be no longer tenable by the foreign garrison, which constituted the chief means of its

defence. Being finally determined upon, Napoleon applied himself to its execution with all the ardour which the hope of success could kindle in a spirit fired with genius and ambition! and such was his exercise of scientific skill, combined with a personal heroism remarkable even in those days of matchless daring, that on the eighteenth day from unmasking his batteries, he was enabled to carry by assault the fort called Little Gibraltar, the possession of which gave the republican arms that decisive predominance he had contemplated. Lord Hood immediately evacuated the harbour with his ships; the garrison prepared for a gradual abandonment of the defensive posts; the galley-slaves burst from their chains, and commenced a general plunder; the arsenal was set on fire, and the huge vessels of war roared with the flames of devastation.

Such was the achievement by which Napoleon Buonaparte first emerged in renown from among that swarm of youthful heroes who in this famous era had flung themselves into the service of France. On this early stage of his career he met two young soldiers, still struggling against the frowns of fortune, whom he attached to him by the notice he took of their cool intrepidity in the midst of danger. These were Junot and Duroc, who retained for him ever afterwards an affection and admiration which was wholly independent of his future grandeur. The Representatives of the Convention and Dugommier freely acknowledged the value of Napoleon's services; and the Committee of Public Safety at once elevated him to the rank of general of brigade. He was henceforth attached to the army of the Alps under Dumorbion, who, being old, and diffident of himself, willingly relinquished to his more vigorous lieutenant the conduct of a campaign which was beset with unusual difficulties, from the rugged nature of the country and the absolute destitution of the soldiers. To this army were delegated the same commissioners who had superintended the siege of Toulon, all men of note and influence in the Republic at the time, and two of whom at least manifested a perfect appreciation of the merits of the new commandant of artillery. One of these was the younger Robespierre, brother of the chief dictator among the ruling decemvirs; and the other was Barras, who affected a military knowledge: the third commissioner was Salicetti, himself a Corsican, but nurturing a bitter envy against his rising countryman. The first, indeed, formed with Napoleon an intimacy which had nearly led to momentous consequences. Although the atrocities of the Jacobins were extremely revolting to him—for his temperament was utterly averse to their horrible system of government—Napoleon was not insensible to the advantage of cultivating a friendship with the brother of their most potential leader, whose favour was the surest avenue to high distinction. Moreover, the younger Robespierre was really estimable for many virtues. It is not singular, therefore, that Napoleon turned his eyes with some predilection towards one so capable of promoting his interests, and whom he might suppose an involuntary agent of bloodshed. Thus he became connected with Robespierre, who entertained the idea of conferring on him the command of the Parisian sans-culottes in lieu of the miserable Henriot, whose incompetence he had the sagacity to detect. The proposition was even made to him by the younger brother, who repeatedly urged him to accompany him to Paris, whither he was recalled by the perils beginning to threaten the continuance of the existing dominion. But Napoleon resolutely resisted all such solicitations, for however Robespierre might have imposed on him by those professions of moderation which he essayed in the latter days of his reign, he could not consent to wear the actual livery of such a master, whose character of sternness and implacability he was not anxious to encounter too closely. 'There is no honourable place for me

but the army at present; the time is not yet come, *but it will arrive, when I shall command at Paris*,' are the prophetic words which Lucien does not hesitate to put into his mouth on this occasion. Yet notwithstanding his refusal to identify himself with Robespierre, he was involved in the downfall of that monster; and after the glorious 9th of Thermidor (27th of July 1794), he was arrested as an adherent and partisan of the fallen tyrant.* Being cast into prison with other more avowed Terrorists, he narrowly escaped the death which awaited them under the violence of reaction; but he was eventually set at liberty through the force of his own remonstrances and the plaintive pleadings of his humble friend Junot. Nevertheless this release was purchased by the sacrifice of his rank in the army, and he lost all the fruits of the brilliant reputation he had won: at the age of twenty-five he was thrown upon the world, expelled from the profession in which he had already begun to gather prospective laurels. His brothers shared in the terrible reverses of the moment: Joseph saved himself by a temporary retreat to Genoa, but Lucien incurred the horrors of the incarceration, albeit he protested against so ungrateful a return for the boon of life he had magnanimously secured to his unsympathising victims.

This may be considered the second phase in the calamities of the illustrious House of Buonaparte. Whilst all France was ringing with the joy of its deliverance from the detestable thraldom of murderers, the heaviest gloom hung upon the hopes of those strangers in the land. Proscription and degradation were now their lot, in addition to the poverty from which they had partially emerged, and in which they were again plunged with aggravated bitterness. But in this extremity of their fortunes Joseph became the prop and support of the family, by his marriage with the daughter of a wealthy merchant of Marseilles named Clary. By the dowry he got with his wife, Joseph was raised into almost affluent circumstances, and obtained a position which enabled him to be of essential benefit to his mother and the children still remaining under her charge. Lucien had been liberated from the prison of Aix after a detention of six weeks, during which he escaped almost miraculously the massacres then perpetrating by the Royalists on the imprisoned Jacobins in the southern departments of France, and he returned to Marseilles from his incarceration in very dismal plight. He, too, had contracted matrimony during his residence at St. Maximin, where the daughter of an innkeeper called Boyer had fixed his affections. Unlike his eldest brother, however, he derived no fortune with her; and she proved rather an inopportune encumbrance in the existing condition of his finances. But he was fondly attached to her, portionless as she was, for she was very beautiful and very amiable, and in his sanguine temperament he found consolation for present indigence in visions of future prosperity.

After his discharge from the army and from captivity, Napoleon had proceeded to Paris with the view of claiming from the new government reparation of the wrongs he had suffered. His former friend Barras was now in an influential station, from the important part he had borne in the overthrow of Robespierre, and he could materially aid him in the object of his suit. But although he experienced from that person a friendly reception, he derived no advantage through his advocacy, if it were ever sincerely exerted, which it probably was not. Hence, all his applications being fruitless, he found himself in a situation at once most galling and

* Napoleon accused Salicetti of provoking his arrest by his vile machinations against him, and he subsequently revenged the perfidious deed by facilitating that personage's escape from the vengeance of the Convention after the event of the 1st Prairial (20th May 1795).

deplorable; since to his impetuous spirit the want of employment at a time when active service offered so many chances of distinction must have been intolerable. Yet his ardent imagination was even then filled with reveries of the greatness he might achieve; and it was on an Oriental field his thoughts wandered in brilliant perspectives, for he deemed Europe tame and sterile in comparison with Asia as a theatre of glorious enterprise. He cherished the idea of leaving France, and offering to the Turkish sultan the sword his country was unworthy to possess; but averse to go forth as a mere adventurer, he submitted a proposition to the government for heading a detachment of officers to improve the discipline of the Ottoman forces, and prepare them for a more equal encounter with the trained soldiers of Russia. This proposition, however, was not entertained; and the impatient hero was compelled to await a more propitious period to realise his scheme of revolution and conquest in the East. Big with these enthusiastic dreams, he loitered about the streets of Paris, scowling at the effeminate puppies who pranced in the promenades on caparisoned horses, and lisped the praises of singers and dancers at the Opera; for the metropolis of terror had been suddenly changed into one of exaggerated gaiety: conversing with Junot, who clung to him in his adversity with an almost infatuated fidelity, and strolling in deserted avenues or through the collections of the *Jardin des Plantes* in the stillness of evenings, to indulge in pensive meditations, or to beguile the weary time, replete with moments of anguish. In such paroxysms of the conscience, despair is prone to seize upon the mind, and inspire its victims with lamentable impulses. So Napoleon fell under the dire temptation, and one night started along the quays to throw himself from one of the bridges over the Seine. On his way he encountered an old friend whom he had not seen since they were comrades of the camp, and to whom he related the sad story of his distresses, which affected not him only, but objects dearer to him than himself. This friend was moved by the mournful tale, and presented to the intending suicide a bag of money, which dispelled the gloomy humours which had impelled him to his fearful purpose.

Thus rescued from an inglorious death, the teeming era of revolutions at length summoned into conspicuous action the wo-worn Napoleon. The Convention was about to close its stormy existence after promulgating a new constitution for France, by which an executive government was created of five directors, with a legislature divided into two chambers—one to be called the Chamber of Ancients, the other the Chamber of Five Hundred. By supplemental statutes, two-thirds of the old Conventionalists were to form part of the new legislature, and against this provision the Reactionists protested with vehement anger. The sections of Paris, in particular, were furious in their opposition; and failing to intimidate the Convention by menaces, they resolved to coerce it by an armed insurrection. To meet this threatened danger, the Convention appointed Barras to command the forces at its disposal, which consisted of about 6000 troops of the regular army; and he, calling to mind that energetic officer whom he had known in the campaign of the Maritime Alps, wisely judged he was better qualified than himself to conduct the military operations fitted to the occasion. He accordingly applied to Napoleon in the emergency, and on his recommendation the latter was forthwith nominated to be second in command. A subordinate part, however, was not suited to one of Napoleon's temperament, and he at once assumed the principal direction of affairs. As the Sectionaries far exceeded in numerical strength the army of the Convention, he determined to act strictly on the defensive, and with this view surrounded the National Palace with cannon, and

intrenched his soldiers on all the approaches which led to it. On the morning of the 13th Vendemiaire (5th October 1795) the insurgents assembled to the number of 30,000 men, and about three in the afternoon appeared with their heads of columns on the Place du Carrousel, the open square in front of the Tuileries. Instantly Napoleon opened upon them a terrific discharge of grape-shot, which staggered, overthrew, and routed them. The battle was neither long nor obstinate; the Sectionaries could make no head against the tempest of balls vomited against them by their scientific enemy. Recoiling in affright, part of them attempted to make a stand on the steps of the Church of St. Roch, but Napoleon ranged against them his guns, and executed upon them a desolating havoc. Shortly the insurgent army was in consternation and in flight; the insurrection was suppressed, and the Convention victorious. The conqueror was hailed with acclamations by the grateful Assembly, and in reward of his services he was nominated to be general of the Army of the Interior. By his achievement he had gained a twofold merit in the eyes of the government: he had saved the Revolution, for had the Sections been triumphant, the restoration of the Bourbons would have been the almost inevitable result; he had established the Directorial constitution, which, after the experience of the past, was held to fulfil all the expectations of reasonable republicans. Henceforth he became of paramount importance in the convulsed community: the reduction of Toulon had first fixed upon him the attention which was requisite to encourage confidence in his superiority; the repulse of the Sections in Vendemiaire showed him resolute and indomitable in conflict, and stamped upon him the seal of predominance.

It is thus that opportunity only is wanting to men of real genius and capacity to make manifest the qualities within them, and assure them command over the satellite herd of mankind. This Napoleon had gained, and straightway the path of fortune was wide and smooth before him. Happy accidents almost poured upon him, and none was more singularly auspicious than that which introduced him to a wife. As a consequence of their defeat in Vendemiaire, the reactionary citizens of Paris were deprived of their arms, which were delivered into the possession of the general of the Army of the Interior. One day he was applied to by a boy not more than ten years of age for the restoration of his father's sword, which had been seized in the general search, although its owner was long since dead. The ingenuous earnestness of the youth pleaded in his favour, and Napoleon restored him the sword; but he was induced to ask the circumstances of the family to which he belonged. His father, Alexander de Beauharnais, had commanded one of the armies of the Republic, but had lost his head in the Reign of Terror; his mother, Josephine (No. 4), still survived, having narrowly escaped the same fate by the fortunate execution of Robespierre within a few hours of her intended condemnation. She was a native of Martinique, and was enveloped in a strange interest, from the remarkable prophecies that had been made concerning her. In one of these, delivered by an old negress, she herself put faith with the superstition natural to her clime; and so far, in truth, the prediction had been verified. It was said that she should witness the death of her first husband, be plunged into the deepest misery, but ultimately be raised above the estate of a queen. That such a prediction had been made there is very positive evidence, although with about as much actual foresight on the part of the negress as is vested in those famed gipsies who, for a corresponding fee, will promise any extent of sublunary grandeur. But whatever might be the fabled destinies in store for her, it was upon more rational expectations that Napoleon sought and won her hand; for although

he had himself a considerable share of dreamy superstition, it is not to be supposed that he gave any heed to such stupid tales when he married Josephine. She was recommended to him by the inimitable graces of her person and manners, which were fascinating in a superlative degree. She was acquainted with Barras, which gave her great influence over him; and as this personage had been elected one of the new directors, he was now possessed of greater power than ever. Hence his favour was of material consequence, especially in the distribution of military commands; and as Napoleon aspired to the very highest and most important in the service of the Republic, it was politic in him to strengthen his pretensions by an alliance fortified with those of friendship.

From associations which had their origin in predilections of sundry kinds, individual and professional, Italy was the field on which Napoleon panted to make his great essay in arms. It was a country he had profoundly studied in a military aspect, and had at an earlier period submitted plans for its invasion to the government, which had been well appreciated, but postponed through the pressure of many conflicting circumstances. He again renewed his propositions under present more favourable auspices, and as they met the approbation of Carnot, who had succeeded to a place in the Directory, and who was then considered the highest military authority of the day, he received the appointment he so much coveted, and was named on the 1st March 1796 generalissimo of the Army of Italy. This army was both the least numerous and the worst provided of all those arrayed by France in that eventful year for foreign invasion and domestic warfare. Young Hoche had 100,000 men assigned him for the subjugation of La Vendée; Jourdan and Moreau commanded armies of 80,000 men each on the Upper and Lower Rhine; Buonaparte had only 30,000 troops to realise his daring project of conquering Piedmont, and wresting Lombardy from the Austrians. It is true that the French, by the victory of Loano under Scherer in the previous November, had surmounted all the difficulties of the mountain passages, and stood prepared to descend into the Italian plains whenever opportunity might seem to invite them; but for offensive operations, certain supplies at all events are indispensable. Now, such was the penury of the French exchequer, that it possessed no means to furnish these supplies; and during the whole winter these valiant troops had been exposed to hardships and privations which severely tested their fortitude as well as discipline. Even in spring, the utmost efforts of the government were incompetent to feed or clothe them adequately; and all that could be effected was to provide them with such stores of munitions as were absolutely necessary to enter upon a campaign. Means of transit were almost entirely wanting, for the system of forced requisitions was of no avail in a mountainous country from which the meagre cultivators had fled in dismay. But in that extraordinary era armies were subsisted and moved in a manner which defies calculation; and the martial enthusiasm of the soldiers made amends for deficiencies which would have paralysed more methodical and mercenary hosts. Once across an enemy's frontier, the French were at ease, for as they carried with them the boon of liberty, they held themselves justified in living at the expense of disenthralled populations. Their difficulty, therefore, was only at the outset, and until they could break from their own exhausted soil; this overcome, they had abundance, and pushed on to further conquests. To propel his army from the Alpine range into fertile valleys below, Napoleon received from the Directory the sum of 2000 louis-d'or in specie; and never surely was so gigantic an undertaking contemplated with such slender resources. Yet he was animated with a fervour and self-confidence which set at nought all impediments; and he

said joyously to his friends as he started, 'In three months you will see me again at Paris, or will hear of me at Milan.'

It was in no idle spirit that he spoke these words; for on the desperate hazard he was prepared to stake the future of his life, whether it should be disgrace in failure, or empire in success. Two armies were opposed to him—one of Piedmontese 20,000 strong, and the other of Austrians 35,000 strong, between which he poured with his complement of 30,000. Already, under the revolutionary impulse, the tactics of war had been materially changed from the old established routine; and the generals of the Coalition had suffered untimely reverses, inflicted on them contrary to the rules of art, as they reasonably complained. But such changes were trifling in comparison with those introduced by Napoleon Buonaparte, who struck by blows so sure and rapid, that his enemy was overpowered before he well knew operations had commenced; and campaigns which, under the old system of even Marlborough and Frederick, would have lingered for years, were decided in a few weeks, sometimes in a few days. Thus he hurled the Piedmontese and Austrians before him on separate routes of retreat with a precipitation which annihilated resistance: in less than two months he had fought six battles, reduced Sardinia to sue for peace, entered Milan in triumph, and expelled the Austrians from Lombardy, driving them across the Adige, and into the fastnesses of the Tyrol. Such a series of exploits, accomplished in so short a time, wrought a boundless amazement, and the hero of them was extolled as a prodigy superior to all warriors of ancient or modern fame. It was the rapidity of his achievements rather even than their results which dazzled the imagination, and marked the advent of a new master in the great art of war. No conqueror had ever displayed such originality of genius, such boldness of conception, such profundity of combination, such celerity of execution; and the sudden interest which invested him was increased by the novel grandeur of the language in which he spoke to his soldiers, and the imperious tone he assumed to the potentates who held fair Italy in servitude. At the bare aspect of his sword, priestly and royal dominations crouched before him; and the proud oligarchy of Venice sent humble intercessions to propitiate his wrath. Yet his possession of Lombardy was very insecure, for the House of Austria was making prodigious exertions to wrest it from him, and to recover that stolen jewel of its usurping crown. Four successive armies of 60,000 men each were pushed down the gorges of the Tyrol and across the Brenta, under veteran leaders of exalted reputation, to dislodge him from his central position of Verona, and, thence dislodged, to inflict on him an inevitable ruin. Against these he contended with a skill and energy which have rendered his deeds in those campaigns superior in renown to all other feats of strategy or heroism. He himself has not surpassed them; and the conflicts of Lonato, Castiglione, Bassano, Arcole, and Rivoli, although not attended with the stupendous results for which his later victories were celebrated, must ever be esteemed as the most truly brilliant and marvellous of his military successes They assured to him the definite possession of Italy, and enabled him in a subsequent campaign to cross the Noric Alps, and to advance within twenty-five leagues of Vienna, where he extorted from the emperor the famous treaty of Campo-Formio, which secured to France all the vast accessions of territory she had gained from the first outbreak of the revolutionary war. At no period of her history had she concluded so glorious and advantageous a peace; and in his double capacity of warrior and pacificator, Napoleon was received in Paris with an enthusiasm befitting the great services he had performed.

The elevation of this illustrious member of the family failed not to have a beneficial influence on the fortunes of his immediate relatives. After his example they all dropped the Italian orthography of their name, and, to render it more nearly French, wrote it henceforth 'Bonaparte.' Joseph, who had already filled a similar appointment in the Army of the Alps, was named a commissary of war under his brother in Italy, as well as the ex-abbé Fesch. Lucien gladly answered a summons to Paris from his irksome retreat at Marseilles, and was forthwith attached in the like quality of commissary to the Army of the Rhine under Moreau; and shortly afterwards joined Napoleon in his triumphant progress through Italy. Young Louis, too, was provided for by the same fostering care, and although only seventeen years of age, with the grade of a lieutenant, was appointed an aide-de-camp to his puissant brother. He had passed a short time at the military school of Chalons, preparatory to his entering the artillery, and having been from the first under the tutelage of Napoleon, he regarded him not only with great affection, but with almost the deference due to a father. Of all the sons, therefore, Jerome alone remained with his mother, whose household was further reduced in 1797 by the marriage of her eldest daughter Eliza with Felix Bacchiochi, a countryman of her own, and at that time a captain of artillery. This match was highly disapproved by Napoleon; but he nevertheless promoted his new brother-in-law, and made him first a colonel, and then a general of brigade. In this same year Joseph, and in the following year Lucien, were both returned to the Council of Five Hundred as the representatives of the district of Liamone in Corsica, from which Paoli had once more fled. Subsequently to the 18th Fructidor (4th September 1797), when the Directory, established a virtual despotism in France, Joseph was despatched as ambassador of the Republic to Rome, whence he shortly retired, in consequence of a popular tumult, amidst which he nearly lost his life, and for which the recalcitrant Pope suffered the penalty of deposition, Thus the Bonapartes began to form an important power in the state, and already no post in the government was deemed too exalted to occupy the talents or satisfy the claims of their resplendent chief.

But the time was not yet come for his participation or assumption of the government; he must yet gather fresh laurels, ere he could aspire to supreme authority in the Republic. It was not at a period when he had raised it to the pinnacle of greatness it would voluntarily accept him for a sovereign; a season of calamity was needed, to rally its hopes on him as an indispensable instrument of salvation. His position at Paris was irksome both to himself and to the Directory, and it was equally the wish of both that he should forthwith betake himself again to active employment. The Directory was intent to invade England or Ireland, and at no period could such an enterprise have been attended with a better chance of success; accordingly, it had nominated him general of the Army of England, the opportune death of Hoche having removed a rival who could alone have stood against him in the lists of competition. But Napoleon had a different project of his own, which was more agreeable to those early fancies he had so fondly indulged; and he had not completed his conquests of Italy before he cast his eyes on Egypt as the next theatre of his ardent prowess. In Egypt he saw the commencement of his visionary subjugation of Asia, or his dethronement of the Ottoman sultan, and an expedition to conquer it was sufficiently plausible to be defended on the ground of interest to France. The possession of Malta and Egypt was a prodigious step towards the accomplishment of that grand traditionary scheme of rendering the Mediterranean a French lake, whilst, by opening the readiest route to India, it facilitated the destruction of England in a more certain manner

than by direct invasion. Upon these arguments he maintained the superior merits of his project, and the Directory was fain to yield to them a reluctant acquiescence. He embarked therefore on his magnificent enterprise, accompanied by the largest naval and military armament that had ever crossed a wide expanse of sea; and before the aim of his expedition was known to the world, had planted the republican banner on the impregnable ramparts of Malta, the ruined towers of Alexandria, and the glittering minarets of the city of the Caliphs. The battles of the Pyramids and Mount Tabor, fought on fields of such imperishable and hallowed recollection, shed a lustre on the French arms which was all the brighter for the distance it travelled, for the unknown regions that had witnessed them. The French were in raptures at the tidings, for the predominant idea of their Revolution had now become military glory and conquest, to the exclusion of all earlier chimeras touching liberty and fraternity, and the reverses they were sustaining in Europe gave to them a character of peculiar consolation. The Directory was composed of violent men, who displayed insatiable aggressions on the neighbours of France. Soon its usurpation drew upon it the indignation of combined Europe, and its desolating armies were driven back into the confines of France itself. But for the inveterate cupidity of Austria, and the astounding imbecility of England, the Republic must have been overthrown at that time; as it was, it was reduced to a state of great depression and misery. In this dismal crisis all eyes reverted to the indomitable hero who had already elevated France to such a pitch of grandeur, from which she had fallen the moment his sword was withdrawn, and who alone still upheld the fame of her victorious flag; when at the critical moment, the desired saviour appeared, and converted the gloom of his disconsolate countrymen into the joy of an anticipated redemption.

Never was a country so ripe to receive a master, fitted to curb its licentious factions and to restore its vitality, as France in the latter part of 1799. For ten years she had been engaged in a career of revolution, and at the end of that time her fervent prayer was for the institution of a despotism to relieve her from the greater horrors of anarchy and a social dissolution. The master she required in her necessities she found in the person to whom her hopes had instinctively turned—in Napoleon Bonaparte, whose absence she had deplored and his return invoked. On the 9th of November, the Revolution of the 18th Brumaire, the last of the prolific series since 1790, constituted him First Consul of the French Republic, with an almost absolute executive authority. His brother Lucien was of great assistance in accomplishing this object, displaying in his capacity of President of the Council of Five Hundred a firmness and courage which secured the succes of the project when almost on the point of failure. Two subordinate Consuls were at the same time created, together with a Senate, a Council of State, a Legislative Body, and a Tribunate. All the chief appointments were vested in the First Consul, who had consequently abundant means of rewarding his friends and partisans. The policy he pursued was the beneficent one of amalgamating parties and interests, and of substituting for the violent systems of preceding governments one of conciliation and clemency. The measures he took for the restoration of order and tranquillity were singularly judicious and effective, and in a short time he wrought an incredible change in the condition of France, which joyfully threw itself into his arms, reposing confidently on his superior intelligence and capacity. But internal ameliorations were of secondary importance to the still greater object of delivering France from the pressure of foreign enemies, and to this Napoleon directed his unremitting energies. His overtures for peace being contemptuously rejected by the inflated governments of England and

Austria, he prepared to strike a blow which, by its force and suddenness, should confound them, and annihilate their pretensions. With an army, of whose very existence they were profoundly ignorant, he crossed the great chain of the Alps, and debouched into the plains of Italy, directly on the rear of the Austrians, who were beyond the Apennines contemplating an immediate invasion of Provence. These, precipitately retrograding, to regain their communications, he encountered and vanquished on the memorable field of Marengo, through which event he again became, in the course of a few days, complete master of the whole of Italy. Austria was smitten to the heart by so unlooked-for and miraculous a disaster, and she sent an envoy with plaintive propositions to treat of peace. But England strove to revive her palsied courage by dint of replenished subsidies, and she was induced, with desperate resolution, to try the fortune of another campaign. This proved equally calamitous, and nothing remained for her but to submit to the will of the conqueror she had unwisely defied. At Luneville, accordingly, on the 9th of February, 1801, she signed a treaty infinitely more disadvantageous to her than that of Campo-Formio, and one which assured to France an aggrandisement wholly inconsistent with the old balance of power in Europe. Nevertheless, to this sad termination of all her struggles against the Revolution, England herself was reduced to accede: placed in melancholy isolation against the power of the colossal Republic, she, too, succumbed, and concluded a treaty at Amiens in March 1802. Thus did Napoleon lift France from an abyss of degradation to the very highest rank among the nations of the earth; and whilst he endowed her with this envied supremacy, healed the festering sores of her internal maladies, and conferred on her a peace and prosperity she had never known since she embarked in her crusade against kings, nobles, and priests. Commensurate was the gratitude of her enraptured people, who were ready to testify it by any inordinate expression agreeable to their benefactor and idol.

During the short interval between the 18th Brumaire and the peace of Amiens, Napoleon appears clothed with a majesty and glory which throws far into the shade the lustre of monarchs cradled in royalty. Not only did he beat to pieces the formidable coalition arrayed to extinguish France, but all his conduct in this happy era of his life was marked by a wisdom and beneficence which stands in dazzling contrast with the folly and iniquities of the former Royalty of France. In his restoration of religion alone, against the most inveterate prejudice confirmed in the course of the Revolution, he rendered to a benighted land the greatest good it could receive and the indispensable guardian of society; but which it would certainly not have accepted from any hands save his alone. Rarely has power been so quick and overwhelming as in the instance of this extraordinary individual. He seized upon dominions that showed themselves regardless of all guarantees imposed by either good faith, policy, or public law; hence he rendered relations of peace impossible with him, unless on the part of miserable trucklers like the king of Prussia; and he again drew upon France the combined hostility of three-fourths of Europe. But in the interior he had manifested his sovereignty by two events, very dissimilar in their complexion, but equally striking in their tendency and effect. Enraged by the detestable conspiracies of the Royalists to destroy him, and encouraged by the admiration and homage of the whole nation of Frenchmen, he constituted himself their Emperor; and established an empire unmatched for the daring and the splendour of its emblazonries. To consecrate this culminating phase of the Revolution, he summoned to Paris the head of the Catholic church, and exhibited to the astonished universe the spectacle

of a pope anointing in Nôtre-Dame the plebeian but august warrior, who had rectified indeed the errors of intolerant democracy, but still left the Papacy shorn of the territorial grandeur it had laboured so hard in bygone ages to secure.

Among all the shortcomings of Napoleon's character, he cannot assuredly be charged with want of affection for his family, since he displayed towards those connected with him an attachment and regard which was often detrimental to him. His wife Josephine was particularly dear to him; his letters to her at every period of their union are replete with expressions of the warmest devotion; and if at any time she failed to reciprocate his love, it was through a waywardness which left her scarcely mistress of herself. He was supremely happy in her society, for her disposition was of the sweetest and most amiable; and her influence over him was always exercised in kind and benevolent purposes. That she had borne him no children was a subject of inconsolable regret, but he cherished those of her former husband as if they were his own. These were two—a son and a daughter—Eugene (No. 5), and Hortense (No. 6). Both of them possessed in an eminent degree the attractive qualities of their mother; and Napoleon heaped upon them continual evidences of his affection. Eugene had acted as his aide-de-camp both in Italy and in Egypt; at Marengo he had commanded a brigade of the Guard; in 1804 he was made an imperial prince and arch-chancellor of state; in 1805, immediately after Napoleon's coronation at Milan, he was nominated viceroy of Italy, and subsequently Prince of Venice, and heir of the Lombardo-Venetian crown. Hortense was designed by Napoleon to be given in marriage to his favourite aide-de-camp Duroc, whose handsome person and gallant bearing had already won her admiration. But Josephine opposed this arrangement, from a natural anxiety she laboured under of drawing still closer the ties that united her with her husband; for her barrenness had already become the theme of opprobrium on the part of Joseph and Lucien, who laboured assiduously with their brother to impress upon him the expediency of a divorce. On this account she was intent to bring about a marriage between Louis Bonaparte and Hortense, through which she hoped to defeat the insidious suggestions of her enemies. But serious obstacles stood in the way of her accomplishing her design; for the young couple had an absolute antipathy towards each other, and both were actually in love with other parties. Louis had become enamoured of Josephine's niece —Louise-Emilie, daughter of Francis, Marquis de Beauharnais, her first husband's elder brother—without, however, engaging the young lady's affections in return. This Francis de Beauharnais was an emigrant, and consequently an alliance with him was to be shunned by a brother of Napoleon, who was then only a general of the Republic, and bound to be careful of exciting distrust in his zeal. Accordingly, to prevent mischief, he despatched Louis hastily from Paris; and just previously to starting for Egypt, married Mademoiselle Beauharnais to Lavalette, one of his aides-de-camp, for whose safety she afterwards figured in so marvellous an adventure. Louis, whose character was naturally of a pensive cast, took this disappointment grievously to heart; and, joined to an infirm state of health, it produced in him a melancholy which preyed on him all the remainder of his life; and when the proposition of a union with Hortense was made to him, and it was only by skilful manœuvring that Josephine at length succeeded in gaining his consent, she had gained from her daughter, too, an acquiescence; and on the 4th of January 1802 the knot was tied.

Joseph, whose abilities were mediocre, but who was of the tractable

disposition that Napoleon preferred to all others, stood high in the favour of his brother. On him had been conferred the honour of concluding the famous treaties of Luneville and Amiens, and also the equally famous Concordat with the pope. He was named a grand officer of the Leigion of Honour on the institution of that remarkable order; and on the establishment of the Empire, he became, in common with all his brothers, an imperial prince. At the same time he was created Grand Elector, as was Louis Constable of France. The fate of Lucien was somewhat different. After the 18th Brumaire, he had been appointed Minister of the Interior; in which office he displayed great activity, but was frequently embroiled in angry discussions with the First Consul. He naturally plumed himself on the merit of his services in the critical conjuncture of Brumaire, and aspired to play a much more important part in the administration of affairs than Napoleon was at all disposed to allow him. He was of an impetuous and unbending character, and unsuited to act in subservience perhaps to any master, much more to his own brother. Hence they had repeated quarrels; and on more than one occasion Lucien flung down his portfolio in a passion, exclaiming that he would no longer serve his brother. Such scenes rendered the longer continuance of Lucien in the ministry impossible. He was accordingly sent as ambassador to Spain, where he again contrived to draw upon himself the anger of the First Consul. Contrary to his instructions, he participated in the treaty concluded by the infamous Godoy with the court of Portugal, by which the invasion of the latter kingdom was averted, to the inexpressible mortification of Napoleon, who was still engaged in negociations with England, and was intent to occupy Portugal as a make-weight in the adjustment of terms. The court of Lisbon paid for the boon some 30,000,000 francs. Although recalled in disgrace, Napoleon afterwards put him into the Tribunate, where he was of use in passing through that reluctant body the measure for the institution of the Legion of Honour (No. 7), of which he was himself also appointed a grand master. From this time he began to live in great splendour, furnished sumptuously a magnificent hotel, and commenced the collection of one of the finest galleries in Europe. He became a marked patron of the arts, and might have continued to flourish in dignified affluence, but for his unhappy disposition to offend his imperious brother. He set himself in opposition to him in all family matters, and inspirited even the placid Joseph to assume a mutinous demeanour, prevailing on him to refuse, first the presidency of the Senate, and next the dependent crown of Italy. But it was by his own marriage he irritated Napoleon to the highest pitch. His first wife, the daughter of the innkeeper at St. Maximin, having died, he married in 1803 a widow, Madame Jouberteau, a very beautiful and accomplished woman. This alliance Napoleon insisted upon his dissolving; and upon his positive refusal, threatened him so roughly that he thought fit to retire from Paris, and withdrew himself to Rome. There he took up his permanent abode, purchasing a large property at Canino, in the Papal States, living in ostentatious luxury, and enjoying the intimacy of the benignant pontiff Pius VII.

It was not to be supposed that Napoleon, even had he felt less regard for his mother, would have allowed her to remain at Marseilles after he had obtained supreme power in France. But he entertained towards her a very affectionate remembrance, for he rightly attributed to her early lessons the foundation of his greatness, confirming a truth of universal application, that a mother's care is the index and condition of pre-eminence among the sons of men. Upon the event of the 18th

Brumaire she removed to Paris, where, however, she lived in a very retired manner, which was equally in accordance with her own tastes, and agreeable to the wishes of the First Consul, who could not venture at that time to give the females of his family any distinctive rank or prominence. From the trials and misfortunes to which she had been exposed, she was naturally of a provident disposition, and rigidly condemned superfluous expenditure on the part of her children, saying, with a foreboding gesture, that they knew not what they might come to notwithstanding their present prosperity. She took part with Lucien in his quarrel with Napoleon, and, greatly to the chagrin of the latter, followed him to Rome, displaying in her conduct the sternness and independence which was characteristic of her. When upbraided by Napoleon with an undue partiality for Lucien, she answered sharply that an unfortunate son would always be the most dear to her ; which she proved to himself afterwards by a memorable devotion. Shortly after the creation of the Empire, however, she was induced to return to Paris, whither the new Emperor (No. 8) invited her by tender solicitations, and offers of a splendid establishment. In truth he settled upon her an annual income of 1,000,000 francs (£40,000), assigned her a separate court, and gave her a position as *Madame-Mère,* equivalent to the title of Empress-Mother. She took up her residence in the sumptuous mansion furnished by Lucien, but she was far from maintaining the princely state and hospitality of that banished magnate. 'Who knows but I may have one day to keep all these kings and queens?' she was accustomed to remark, even in those halcyon days when fortune wore her serenest smile, and crowns glittered on the heads of her rejoicing sons and daughters.

Of his sisters, Napoleon was fondest and proudest of Pauline (No. 9), who had emerged into womanhood a very paragon of beauty. At the age of sixteen, she had displayed a very warm attachment she had formed for Fréron, one of the members of the Committee of Public Safety. Fortunately saved from union with such a man, and having a crowd of admirers she encouraged around her, her brother hastened her marriage with young Leclerc, an officer of humble origin, but of considerable promise, whom he immediately elevated to the rank of general. Pauline was by no means favourable to this union, insomuch that, when her husband was appointed in 1801 to head the expedition to St. Domingo, she refused to accompany him, and it required all the authority of Napoleon, to get her compliance with an imperative duty. She went out to the Antilles accordingly, and by her enlivening entertainments struggled for a time against the desolations of pestilence ; but after the death of Leclerc, she gladly escaped from so dismal a scene ; and, carrying back his embalmed body and her treasures, she hurried with alacrity to enjoy again the pleasures of luxurious Paris. Never did a more gay or fascinating widow flutter in the brilliant circles of that dissipated capital. Her ambition was to outstrip in attractions the graceful Josephine, whom, with all her beauty, she could never rival in the inimitable tastefulness of her dress. Her displays were theatrical, although in other respects she was full of generosity and good-nature. She often provoked the displeasure of Napoleon, but never failed to pacify him by her blandishments, for he knew she was really attached to him, and he willingly suffered himself to be coaxed into pardon of her follies. Nevertheless he deemed it prudent she should take again, with all despatch, another husband; and accordingly, in 1803 she was married to the Prince Camille Borghese, an Italian of historic name and large possessions, who united to eligibility the complaisance of a high-bred consort. In the following year

the Emperor of the French created her an imperial princess, and in 1806 endowed her with the rich dependencies of Guastella and Piacenza, which she bartered, however, for an equivalent in money, not wishing to exchange the pomps and gaieties of Paris for the barren cares of an obscure sovereignty.

Eliza, the eldest of the sisters, was more esteemed than beloved perhaps by her brother. She affected rather the masculine virtues than the softer graces of womanhood, and was distinguished, moreover, for literary propensities, which often impart an air of pretension less pleasing than imposing in a woman of real superiority. She was the first preferred by Napoleon to dignity, being made by him Grand-Duchess of Lucca and Piombino on the occasion of his coronation as King of Italy. At this extraordinary step, in conjunction with the annexation to France of Piedmont and Genoa, the powers of Europe took just umbrage, and saw in it the commencement of a system which threatened to end in a universal dominion. In after-times he transferred also Tuscany to this 'Semiramis of Lucca,' as Talleyrand in his flattery designated her, having at length exhausted the occasions for which he kept that fair region of Italy as a shuttlecock of indemnity. He had first given it to two miserable puppets of the Spanish Bourbons in exchange for Louisiana; then he had taken it from the survivor, upon the promise of an illusory crown in Portugal; lastly, he had held it before the eyes of Ferdinand to induce his renunciation of the crown of Spain. In short he regarded the Tuscans as a herd of cattle, to be trafficked in any way he thought fit, to be sold and conveyed to an opportune bidder like a gang of American slaves. Nevertheless the Princess Eliza ruled these unfortunate Italians with a gentle and intelligent sway, transacting the affairs of administration with great industry, and jealously excluding from all authority her husband Bacciochi, who was content to abandon himself to the grosser enjoyments of his fortune. In personal deportment she was apt to imitate the abrupt manners of the Emperor; in her government she gave literary tastes to the winds, and busied herself instead with reviews of soldiers—an occupation more germane, as she thought, to a kinswoman of the mighty conqueror.

The youngest daughter of the Imperial House was Caroline (No. 10), and she fell to the lot of Joachim Murat, a cavalry officer who had risen from the ranks, and who, since the event of the 13th Vendemiaire, had been closely attached to the person of Napoleon. Although lacking the perfect symmetry and attractive beauty of Pauline, she was eminently handsome, and of a bold and ambitious character, which rendered her the most aspiring of the whole family. Murat had of himself claims upon the gratitude of the Emperor, who raised him to be a prince and marshal of France, and also endowed him with the title of Grand Admiral (No. 11). But Caroline was continually dissatisfied with the share of grandeur allotted to her husband, and so teased Napoleon with importunate comparisons, that he one day exclaimed to her in a passion, 'To hear you talk, one would really suppose that I had deprived you of the inheritance left by the king your father.' Still, he was solicitous to gratify her cravings, and sought by promises to flatter her hopes and allay her impatience. These he was enabled fully to redeem, and in the end no members of his family were more amply rewarded than Joachim with his ambitious spouse.

M. Fesch, the half-brother of Madame-Mère, had, with the restoration of religion in France, relapsed to his original profession, and having been received again by the benignant pope into the bosom of the Church, he participated largely in the ecclesiastical benefits showered upon the Gallican clergy. It is true that Napoleon insisted upon his undergoing an ordeal of

purification in a seminary before being admitted to a seat in the new hierarchy; but he immediately afterwards nominated him to the archbishoprick of Lyons, and the pope conferred on him the superior grade of a cardinal. He afterwards represented his imperial nephew at the court of Rome, where he gained in a remarkable degree the favour and confidence of the holy pontiff, whose interests he espoused with great ardour. It is certainly a surprising fact, that with all the extraordinary benefits lavished upon his relatives by the great Emperor, none of them seem to have been actuated by a corresponding gratitude towards him, and that they all more or less thwarted his views, and proved refractory to his authority. Having so poor an opinion of men, he never supposed them capable of heeding inducements other than those of selfish interest: yet it is certainly strange that he should find, as he himself declared, his worst enemies in the bosom of his own family. There was one very decided exception to this rule in the person of Jerome (No. 12), his youngest brother, who never contested his will. This youth he had sent into the navy, hoping to throw some lustre by his presence on that service; but being appointed on a cruise off the American coast, the sailor got entangled in a match with a young lady of Baltimore, a Miss Paterson, whom, in 1805, he brought to Europe as his bride. Napoleon, however, refused to allow her even to land on any part of the continent, and she was obliged to seek a refuge in England. He took his brother most severely to task for this outrage on the dignity of the family, and insisted that he should forthwith repudiate so improper a connection. The youth was in reality much attached to his pretty wife, and, being instigated by Lucien, for some time ventured to withstand the stern commands of the incensed Emperor. He was again hurried off to sea as captain of a 74, and having crossed the Atlantic, and got back again without being captured—he was extolled in the columns of the 'Moniteur' as a paragon of seamen, and as destined to eclipse in fame all the admirals of England, with Nelson at their head. Nevertheless Napoleon changed his opinion touching these prospects of his brother, for he shortly afterwards annulled his marine career altogether, and converted him into a soldier, designing him to gather laurels on a more likely field under his own immediate guidance.

Such being the state of the Bonaparte family at the institution of the Empire, it became of paramount importance with the founder of the dynasty to decide how and by whom it was to be perpetuated. He had himself no offspring, and therefore must choose a collateral heir. In the *first* place, the imperial crown was settled on Napoleon Bonaparte and his direct issue in the male line, with a power of adoption under certain restrictions; *secondly*, on Joseph Bonaparte and the heirs-male of his body; and *thirdly*, on Louis Bonaparte and the heirs-male of his body. At the same time it was provided that the marriage of a French prince, without the consent of the head of the Empire, should entail the loss of all hereditary right in the offending prince and his offspring. This exclusion struck directly at Lucien and Jerome, who were already in the category of delinquents on that score, and they accordingly remained in the Imperial Constitutions debarred from the right of succession. A chance of reinstatement was, however, left them by the dissolution of their marriages. In accordance with the old Salic law of the monarchy, females were perpetually excluded, and in so essentially military a creation that relic of feudalism was appropriately preserved. By this exceptional limitation Napoleon sufficiently marked his dissatisfaction with Lucien, and also Jerome.

Having thus settled the foundations of his empire, as he deemed, on an imperishable basis, Napoleon prepared to wage battle against the confederated

powers of Europe, and exalt his greatness to a yet more colossal height: and in truth the armies of the continent were extinguished by him with a facility which might well inflate him with notions of his omnipotence on earth. At Ulm and Austerlitz he prostrated the Austrian empire; at Jena he dissolved in a day the accumulated dominion of Frederick and the House of Brandenburg; at Friedland he annihilated the martial host of barbaric Russia; at Tilsit he bound the successor of the savage Romanzoffs captive to his chariot, and whirled him to the precipice on which he had well nigh met his ruin. Then supreme dominator of the potentates he suffered to reign in corners of their former territories, he trod upon their necks with a pride which have had few parallels in European history. From Naples he expelled the hostile race of Bourbons, and placed on its throne his brother Joseph (No. 13); in Holland he planted Louis as king; and at Cassel, across the Rhine, over a heterogeneous compound called the kingdom of Westphalia, he fixed Jerome (No. 14) as a monarch. Caroline he gratified by making her husband Grand-Duke of Berg, constituting him a sovereign over 300,000 Germans. This system of vassal-fiefs he completed by the Confederation of the Rhine, in which he enrolled the second-class powers of Germany as his immediate dependents—such as Saxony, Bavaria (No. 15), and Wurtemberg, whose reigning princes he created kings. Thus he obliterated the ancient German empire, and absorbed the greatest part of it within the folds of his ascendancy. But even such aggrandisements were insufficient to appease his large heart. He must needs form alliances with sovereign houses. Accordingly he united his adopted son Eugene to the eldest daughter of the king of Bavaria; and having compelled Jerome to discard the fair American, he extorted from the reluctant king of Wurtemburg his daughter Catherine (No. 16), as a wife for his majesty of Westphalia. A niece of the Empress Josephine, Stephanie de Beauharnais, he married to the hereditary Prince of Baden; whilst another niece of nearer kith, Mademoiselle de Tascher, being created a French princess for the occasion, was given in wedlock to the young heir of the House of Aremberg. By these courtly alliances he thought to consolidate his sway, and to extend the ramifications of the influence of one of the mightiest of human understandings.

After appropriating so large a share of Germany, and the whole of Italy, in which the pope alone still preserved a shadow of the old patrimony of St. Peter, it behoved the conqueror to culminate his 'system' by the reduction of Spain and Portugal into a corresponding state of vassalage. Of Portugal he deemed himself justly entitled to take possession, because that power had the audacity to trade with Great Britain. Accordingly, after the peace of Tilsit had relieved him from all immediate solicitude in the north and east of Europe, he despatched Junot with an army to seize Lisbon, whence at his bare approach the degenerate Braganza fled across the wide Atlantic. As Spain happened to be a very faithful and subservient ally of his own, he could scarcely pursue so abrupt a course with regard to it; and he was therefore reduced to adopt a conduct towards its imbecile monarch and his family which surpasses everything in history. But it was suffered to succeed for a time; and having entrapped all the members of the Bourbon dynasty into his toils at Bayonne, he consigned them to different places in France, allowing them insignificant pensions. It is true that the royal family of Spain was the most degraded and flagitious that could be imagined, the old Queen Louisa especially, and her minion Godoy, Prince of Peace, being perfect samples of all that is detestable in the governors of kingdoms; whilst old Charles IV. was weak and besotted to an inconceivable degree.

In connection with his contemplated seizure of the two Peninsular crowns, Napoleon had held a singular interview with his brother Lucien at Mantua during a journey he made into Italy in December 1807. Notwithstanding his knowledge of Lucien's intractable temper, he was desirous of making him a king like the rest of his brethren, and he proposed at the moment to give him for a sovereignty the realm of Portugal. He had not yet formed his determination touching Spain, still wavering as to the policy of dethroning the reigning dynasty, or of attaching it to him by a marriage between a princess of his house and Ferdinand, Prince of the Asturias, who eagerly demanded the honour and protection of such an alliance. He had therefore a twofold object to attain in his interview with Lucien: *first*, to induce his consent to become king of Portugal; and *secondly*, to obtain from him his eldest daughter to be educated under his own eye, with the view of being united to Ferdinand in case that scheme was ultimately adopted. But this offer of Lusitanian royalty was clogged with the condition that Lucien should dissolve his existing marriage; which he refused to do; and consequently the brothers parted on bad terms. However, although Lucien withstood for himself all temptation, his wife, with great nobleness of mind, urging him to accede, he agreed to part with his daughter, the first born of the maid of St. Maximin, that she might be converted into a princess under the auspices of her uncle. She was accordingly sent to Paris, and placed with her grandmother, Madame-Mère; but her sojourn there was cut short. The young lady was of a satirical vein, and touched up with biting humour the foibles of her imperial uncles and aunts, not sparing the old grandmamma herself; therefore, by the unanimous verdict of the family, she was adjudged to be sent back to her father, who had instilled into her such sentiments. The Emperor signed an ordinance for her removal within twenty-four hours; and so ended the magnificent project of a union in her person between the rival tribes of Bourbon and Bonaparte. She returned to Rome, and poor Ferdinand was put into durance at Valençay, instead of figuring as a monarch in the halls of San-Lorenzo and Aranjuez.

The Spanish occupation was renderered fatal to Napoleon by his injudicious choice of Joseph (No. 17) to fill the vacant throne. That honest personage and his estimable consort, Queen Julia, performed the part of the royalty of Naples pretty well, and certainly more respectably than their discreditable predecessors. But he was totally unsuited to the proud and irascible Spaniards, to whom the very mildness of his character was a subject of reproach. The first great disaster which heralded the coming catastrophe was the surrender of Dupont at Baylen, with an army of 20,000 men, to a horde of undisciplined Andalusians under Castanos. This was followed by the immediate flight of Joseph from Madrid, after a residence in his new capital of only ten days. Then came the capitulation of Junot at Lisbon to a British force, and Europe was in a ferment at events which destroyed the prestige of Napoleon's invariable success. Yet from these primary reverses he rose for a time more triumphant and prosperous than ever. At the magnificent congress of Erfurth, he confirmed the Russian autocrat in his subservient alliance; he poured 300,000 soldiers into the Peninsula, and at Madrid gave back to Joseph in person his reconquered kingdom; at Eckmül and Wagram he again prevailed over his potent adversary the Archduke Charles, and the Austrian monarchy lay at his absolute disposal. Glimmerings of the decisive conflict in store for him, to sustain, by the actual subjugation of Russia, his expanded supremacy, prompted him to act with moderation in the peace he made with the Emperor Francis, upon whom, however, he imposed sundry heavy sacrifices. Within a few months of his last conquest and accommodation, he sought

to form a closer alliance with an enemy who had hitherto so pertinaciously opposed him, but whom he wished now to conciliate, and rank as one of his future supporters. In March 1810 he made a formal proposition for the hand of Maria-Louisa (No. 18), the eldest daughter of Francis (No. 19), and it was joyfully conceded by the humbled cabinet of Vienna. This marriage was necessarily preceded by his divorce from Josephine (No. 20), which he had determined upon with reluctance, but which he deemed essential to the stability of his empire and dynasty. The new Empress (No. 21) arrived at Paris in April, and the nuptial ceremony was performed with extraordinary pomp in the palace of the Tuileries. The felicity of Napoleon (22) was at its summit when in the following year she was delivered of a son, the destined heir of all his greatness, and who received in the cradle the majestic title of the King of Rome (No. 23).

But the lowering portents began to accumulate apace. The solemn anathemas of the pope, whom he had at length made prisoner at Grenoble, he might affect to deride, though they were not without effect in kindling the conflagration within which he was to be consumed. But the simultaneous flight of two of his brothers struck him with disquietude. Lucien was warned that the imperial vengeance was about to fall heavily upon him, and with the assistance of Murat (No. 24), who had succeeded Joseph as king of Naples, he made arrangements for proceeding to America; but being captured by a British cruiser, he was carried to England, where he remained until the termination of the war. Louis refused any longer to be the instrument of his power in Holland, and under the shelter of night, fled from the Hague into Bohemia, where he found an asylum from the Austrian government. He left behind him an abdication in favour of his son; but Napoleon immediately absorbed the Dutch Netherlands into the French Empire. From Jerome at the same time he took a considerable share of the territories he had assigned him, and administered to him severe lectures on the courses he pursued on the throne. He often reviled him, and harshly upbraided him with his total want of courage, capacity, and virtue. To increase these fraternal afflictions, Joseph was continually demanding to be relieved from the horrors of his situation in Spain; and Joachim, instigated by his ambitious queen, chafed in petulant anger against the humiliations imposed upon him in his tinsel dignity of King of the Two Sicilies.

In 1812 the Emperor of the West set forth on his memorable expedition to chastise the faithlessness of Alexander (No. 25), who had eventually found his alliance too onerous to be longer endured. With half a million of soldiers he crossed the Niemen, and through fearful difficulties prosecuted his perilous enterprise even to Moscow, where he attained indeed the acme of his glory, but found arrayed against him the destructive agencies of fire, famine, and frost. He commenced his retreat over the wasted route by which he had advanced, and before he again reached Poland, his army had perished. This was the irremediable disaster which struck him down. But never were the extraordinary resources of his character displayed with such brilliancy as in his gigantic efforts to retrieve it. Myriads of embattled enemies marched to crush him, and populations rose to avenge their long-suffered miseries; but he stood an impregnable bulwark against a world in arms. Still he fought and conquered; the fields of Lutzen, Bautzen, Dresden, attested the ineffable superiority of his genius, until ever accumulating numbers overmastered him; and at Leipzig his power received an incurable stab. Driven back into France, he still showed an indomitable front; the campaign of 1814 recalled all the heroism of the renowned 1796; and with 50,000 men, he kept at bay the swarming hosts of invaders, numbering upwards of 300,000. The French were now tired of war, and

began to expatiate on the blessings of peace; accordingly, amid a universal hallelujah, the mighty Napoleon was extinguished (1814); and in exchange for the empire of the world he was assigned the island of Elba (No. 26). The members of his family were banished from the soil of France: his wife returned to her ancestral home, bearing with her his child; and the white flag of the Bourbons was seen once more waving over the sons of the Revolution.

The monarchs and diplomatists of Europe assembled at Vienna to partition the spoils which had fallen for allotment by the destruction of the French Empire. In their strife of cupidity they were somewhat tardy; and ere they had reconciled their rapacious rivalries, the noise came upon them that the imprisoned eagle was again upon the wing. Straightway they separated in tumultuous confusion, for the bare name of Napoleon bore with it a terror greater than that of ten thousand legions, and they hastened to make preparations for their final deliverance from him. The story of the return from Elba, the triumphant march to Paris, the flight of Louis XVIII., the reign of the Hundred Days—is it not written in imperishable records, and are not its marvellous incidents related, if not in letters of gold, at least in characters of shining magnitude? Waterloo terminated this fleeting phase of the great drama, and definitively relieved Europe from its thraldom. Then fell indeed the imperial idol without a hope of resurrection: transferred to a distant island, he was consigned to a living tomb, but encircled with a halo which will grow brighter in its immortality, and which will shine purely when told by the pens of the truthful historian.

In the calamity of 1814 the whole family of the Bonapartes shared, with one exception. Joachim Murat had sought, by a timely defection, to make his peace with the Allies, and, by taking part against his brother-in-law, to preserve the royalty of Naples. In this object he succeeded for the moment, but with little prospect of ultimately securing the advantage he expected from so deplorable a treason. All the other members of the family retired into Italy, and chiefly to Rome, where the reinstated pope afforded them a hospitable reception. Even Lucien broke from his detention in England, and joined the circle in the Eternal City, commanding a cordial welcome from his pontifical friend, who gratified him with the title of Prince of Canino and Musignano. Taught now by experience how entirely dependent they were on Napoleon, the whole of them, mother, uncle, brothers, and sisters, concurred in promoting his return, and none with greater zeal than the refractory Lucien or the light-headed and remorseful Murat. Madame-Mère and Pauline repaired to Elba, where they affected to hold a mimic court, but in reality were the medium through which many of the necessary negotiations were conducted. Upon the successful execution of the enterprise, Joseph, Lucien, and Jerome, followed by Cardinal Fesch, hastened to Paris, and assisted with all their power the re-establishment of the Emperor. Lucien, in particular, distinguished himself by energetic services, and Jerome drew upon himself the eulogy of Napoleon by his intrepidity at Waterloo. The second occupation of Paris by the Allies crushed every hope, and thenceforth all who bore the name of Bonaparte had the mark of proscription set upon them: they became exiles from the land which had witnessed their greatness, and they were scattered into various regions of the world.

Joseph had accompanied Napoleon in his melancholy journey to Rochefort, with the view of affecting an escape to America. The deposed Emperor was circumvented in that design, but the ex-king of Spain was allowed to prosecute the voyage. He landed at New York in the month of September 1815, and established his residence in the state of Pennsylvania, not far

from the town of Philadelphia. He purchased a considerable estate, built a large mansion, maintained a numerous retinue of dependents, and lived in a splendour which surprised the simple denizens of the great Quaker community. The Americans were flattered by his choice of a retreat among them; and as he was uniformly gracious in his demeanour, disbursing money with an unwonted munificence, he commanded their respect and esteem in a very eminent degree. He passed much of his time in agricultural pursuits, and doubtless found a greater portion of happiness than in the more bustling periods of his life, although he was denied the satisfaction of having the society of his wife and daughters. In 1832 he re-visited Europe, where he appeared under the title of the Count de Survilliers, which he had assumed from his first landing in America. Three years subsequently he returned to his transatlantic home, whence he took his final departure in 1841, and repaired to Italy, there to lay his bones in the original seat of his family. He died at Florence in August 1844, at the advanced age of seventy-six, leaving surviving him only one of his two daughters, both of whom had married their first cousins, the sons of Lucien and Louis Bonaparte.

The activity of Lucien (No. 27), when debarred from a political career by the severity of Napoleon, had found vent in literary pursuits and antiquarian researches, prosecuted on his domain of Canino. When in England, he finished his grand epic poem of 'Charlemagne' in 24 books, and he subsequently composed another poem in twelve cantos, called 'La Cirnéide,' or 'Corsica Saved.' These works did not elevate him to a place among the first of epic poets of France, as he fondly expected; notwithstanding the labour bestowed upon them, and the distinguished name of their author: yet they by no means merit the criticisms they have encountered, which have been dictated by the disgraceful animosity so long exhibited against the connections of the man who kept monarchs and aristocracies in such dastard terror. Lucien continued during the remainder of his life in the papal dominions, maintaining a splendid establishment in the City of Rome, and affording a bright example to all proprietors by a diligent cultivation of his estates. He was eminently successful in his excavations of antiquities, and formed a gallery of Etruscan relics unsurpassed for its extent by any similar collection in Christendom, and in 1836 he published a volume of memoirs at London. He lived under four pontificates, and died at Viterbo on the 29th July 1840, leaving behind him a numerous progeny.

To almost every individual of the elder generation Italy became eventually an abode and a resting-place. After a residence in Styria and Switzerland, under the title of the Count de St. Leu, derived from an estate he possessed near Paris, Louis settled at Florence in 1826, having been separated from his wife Hortense since his flight from Holland, and there died in 1846. Jerome had followed his wife into Wurtemburg, where he was at first very ill received by his royal father-in-law, who wished his daughter to discard him. But she clung with true female constancy to her husband, and at length obtained from her father a grant of land in his favour, and also a patent of nobility, by which he was created Duke of Montfort. He remained for some years in Germany, subsequently roamed into Switzerland—where the Princess Catherine died in 1835—purchased property in the March of Ancona, and fixed his head-quarters, like Louis, at Florence, whence the revolution of February 1848 called him to France. Meanwhile all the females of the family were dead. Madame-Mère had died at Rome at the extreme age of eighty-six, on the 2d February 1836; Pauline and Caroline both died at Florence—the first in 1825, and the latter in 1839.

Shortly prior to the execution of Murat (No. 28), who was shot at Pizzo in Calabria on the 13th October 1815, Caroline (No. 29) had retired to Trieste under the protection of the Austrian government, and there she continued to reside until 1836. In that town her sister Eliza, the wife of Bacciochi, had died in 1820, being the only one who died out of Italy except Napoleon himself. The *ci-devant* Grand-Duchess of Tuscany left a son and a daughter—the first being killed by a fall from his horse at Rome in 1833, and the latter married in 1825 to the Count Camarata, a noble of Ancona. The beautiful Pauline alone departed this life without having borne any progeny. As Napoleon had died at St. Helena in 1821, the whole original Corsican stock was now extinguished, save the youngest of all—Jerome, formerly king of Westphalia, and at present governor of the Hôtel des Invalides at Paris.

No family, plebeian or patrician, has ever become so truly cosmopolitan as that of the Bonapartes through the ramifications of alliances. Except that not one of them is united to a native of France, they have been distributed in all the principal countries of the world—Italy, Germany, Russia, Sweden, Portugal, Great Britain, and the United States. The children of Lucien surviving at his death consisted of three sons and several daughters. The eldest son Charles, now Prince of Canino, married Letitia (No. 30), the eldest daughter of his uncle Joseph. The two younger—Pierre and Antoine—were compelled to flee from Rome in 1836; they retired into the United States, whence they returned in 1838, and Pierre has since been elected a member of the French National Assembly for the department of Corsica. Of the daughters, Charlotte, the eldest, she who was intended to be the wife of Ferdinand VII., married in 1815 Prince Gabriella, a Roman noble ; and the second, Christine, a Swedish count of the name of Posse. This latter marriage was dissolved, and then Christine fell to the lot of Lord Dudley Stuart, a younger brother of the last Marquis of Bute. Letitia (No. 31), the third daughter, likewise married a British subject, Mr. Thomas Wyse, who, as member for the City of Waterford, is favourably known for his exertions in the cause of education.

By the charming Hortense, Louis had three sons, the eldest of whom was reared by Napoleon as his future heir. The child died, however, when he was only four years old; and of the survivors—Napoleon-Louis and Charles-Louis-Napoleon—the latter, born 1808, alone is still living. The former married his cousin Charlotte, daughter of Joseph; and, after taking part in the revolutionary disturbances at Rome in 1831, died of inflammation at Forli. Both the sons had clung to their mother, who with difficulty extricated the youngest from the consequences of the abortive enterprise at Rome, and retired with him to the castle of Arenenberg in Switzerland, where she had previously fixed her residence, and brought up with maternal care her two imperial scions.

Previous to his repudiation of Miss Patterson, Jerome had a son, who accompanied his mother to America, and has since married in that country. The admirable Catherine of Wurtemberg bore him three children—two sons and a daughter. Jerome Napoleon, the eldest, born in 1814, was remarkable for his extraordinary resemblance to the Emperor; but died in 1846, without having distinguished himself in any way. Napoleon, the youngest, born in 1823, has been elected to sit in both the National Assemblies of France since the last Revolution. The daughter, Letitia Matilda, married in 1841 a wealthy Russian nobleman, Count Anatole Demidoff, with whom she passes her time between Petersburg and Paris.

The unfortunate Murat left a numerous family—namely, two sons, and two daughters. The eldest, Achille, born in 1801, ex-Crown Prince of

Naples, has led a very chequered career. He emigrated to America like so many of his family, and became a naturalised citizen of the States. He practised as a lawyer in Georgia, married a wife, and purchased a tract of waste land in Florida. The revolutionary tocsin of 1830 brought him back to Europe, and he served in Belgium as colonel of the Foreign Legion. He returned to America; but the heaving portents of the times induced him once more to revisit Europe, where he died, however, just previous to the last revolutionary outbreak. His brother Lucien, born in 1803, accompanied him to America, where, after preliminary studies, he took post among the legal fraternity of New York, and married a demoiselle of that sovereign state. Discontented with his lot, he also made his way back to Europe, and now fills the more appropriate position of a representative of the French people. The two daughters of Joachim and Caroline are married respectively to Italian magnates: the eldest, Letitia, to Count Pepoli of Bologna, long a political exile in London, where he exercised the functions of Italian professor in the university; and the younger, Louisa, to Count Rasponi, whose patrimonial homestead lies in the exarchate of Ravenna.

Eugene Beauharnais, viceroy of Italy, had immediately, after the events of 1814, repaired to the court of his father-in-law, the king of Bavaria, who received him with open arms, and showered upon him every benefit in his power. He conferred on him the principality of Eichstadt (No. 32), and gave him the title of Duke of Leuchtenberg. Eugene died from the effects of an accident in 1824, in the forty-fourth year of his age, and left six children—two sons, and four daughters. Most of these have made fortunate matches. The eldest daughter, Josephine, is the present queen of Sweden, having married Oscar, son of Bernadotte (No 33), in 1823. The second is the wife of a German prince, titular of Hohenzollern-Hechingen; the third married Don Pedro, ex-emperor of Brazil, and thereby became the mother-in-law of her own brother; the fourth married a Count of Wurtemberg. Of the sons, Augustus espoused in 1835 the young queen of Portugal, Donna Maria, daughter of Don Pedro, but he unfortunately died shortly after the nuptials; the youngest, Maximilian, now Duke of Leuchtenberg, obtained in 1839 the hand of the Grand-Duchess Maria, daughter of Nicholas, puissant autocrat of all the Russias. To complete the mixture of nationalities, involved in the Beauharnais branch of the family, the daughter of Stephanie, Grand-Duchess of Baden, and niece of the Empress Josephine, has been recently united to a Scotch nobleman, the Marquis of Douglas, only son of the Duke of Hamilton, ranking one of the highest among the British peerage for martial ancestry and vast possessions.

Notwithstanding all these diversified and brilliant unions, the name of Bonaparte had fallen into a specious of oblivion until the Revolution of 1830, which overturned the crude dominion of the restored Bourbons. Amid the conflict that ensued in France, the young Napoleon was put forward by a party as the legitimate possessor of a revolutionary crown; but overweening considerations served to stifle his pretensions. He had remained under Austrian tutelage since the fatal era of 1814, and though treated with great affection by his grandfather, pains had been taken to rear him as a German, and as little as possible as a Frenchman. The unfortunate youth, born to such mighty prospects, pined in the effeminate seclusion of a palace, and swelled his bursting heart with reminiscences of the wondrous mortal whom he was allowed to recognise as his father. He early betrayed the delicate constitution which hurried him to a premature grave; and, cut off from his natural associations, it was better perhaps that he should die. How melancholy the degradation, for the son of Napoleon to be an officer in a German army, or to be the mediatised lord of Slavonian serfs, crushed under the igno-

minious title of Duke of Reichstadt! (No. 34.) On his death in 1832, a singular rivalry broke out—Who thereby became the representative of the Emperor? Joseph certainly was alive, but he had wisely abjured all idea of political strife. Lucien, it is suspected, was not inclined to undergo a similar negation; and if his eldest son Charles had been more energetically disposed, instead of being immersed in his congenial studies of natural history, he might have exhibited a more active prosecution of his claims. Louis was too quiet; but his surviving son, Charles-Louis-Napoleon, or, as he called himself, Louis-Napoleon, was not a person to forego any pretensions he derived from his birth. By the Senatus-Consultum establishing the Empire, the limitation, after the failure of direct heirs, was to Joseph and Louis, and their respective heirs-male. Under this provision Louis-Napoleon assumed the position of head of the family and heir of his imperial uncle, Joseph and Louis being set aside as effete, and he prepared to make known his succession by a startling manifestation.

Endowed with considerable activity of mind, and stirred by a restless ambition, his first endeavours were to surround his name with such a degree of illumination as literary efforts might suffice to win it. Thus he composed in Switzerland an essay on that confederation, and a work on artillery, which gained him a certain measure of applause, and the honorary citizenship of the canton Thurgau. But in literary reputation he was outshone by his cousin Charles of Canino, who, by his magnificent works on the ornithology of America, and the natural history of Italy, has earned the highest fame of his family in fields of scientific and intellectual disquisition. Hence it was by proof rather of masculine daring and enterprise that he must found his hopes of achieving an acceptable renown. In a work he had published, intended for the political atmosphere of France, and entitled 'Rêveries Politiques,' he manifested republican tendencies mingled with a leaven of the imperial régime, attempting therein to embody perhaps the fantastic creation imagined by Lafayette of a 'monarchy surrounded by republican institutions.' With this as his manual of politics, he made an attempt at Strasburg in 1836, when, dressed in the costume of the Emperor, he sought to kindle a military insurrection against what he thought the unsubstantial throne of Louis Philippe. This scheme failed at the time, and the King of the French thought fit to punish him simply by a voyage across the Atlantic in a frigate appointed for the purpose. Being disgorged on the soil of America, he soon found his way back to Switzerland, where, on the 3rd October 1837, he closed the eyes of his devoted mother Hortense, Duchess of St. Leu. Irritated by his unexpected reappearance within the year of his adventure, the French government procured his expulsion from Switzerland, and he retired to England, whence, in the year 1840, he executed his landing at Boulogne. He had judged the time arrived for taking possession of the French crown after the manner of his uncle in 1815, a considerable excitement then prevailing in France through the corpse of Napoleon having been removed from St. Helena for interment at Paris. But the affair proved unsuccessful, and the prince was shut up in the fortress of Ham with Count Montholon, one of the distinguished attendants of the Emperor in his exile, and who had been induced to join in the enterprise of the nephew.

Before proceeding on this last expedition he had issued a preparatory work entitled 'Idées Napoliennes,' in which he expounded not only his own ideas on manifold important topics, but those also of his deceased and illustrious uncle. In this singular production he makes the Emperor talk after a peculiar fashion, discoursing largely on glory, liberty, popular sovereignty, division of property, and many other matters of most complex character. He would represent the *beau ideal* of a monarch suited to France. A man

encircled by military glory he must be, but withal truly benevolent and philanthropic in his sentiments; maintaining stupendous armies and fleets, yet anxious to alleviate the burthens of taxation, and devoutly attached to peace; with a rare love of national liberties, and especially of their best guardian—the independence of the press. But it is objected to this elaborate compound of monarchical virtues that the military element is found preponderating: and as Louis-Napoleon placed his principal hopes on the army, this preference was probably marked by design. Whilst in Ham, he beguiled the time by compilations of a different complexion. In the 'Fragmens Historiques,' he assimilates the revolutionary episodes of France and England, showing all the Bourbons to be exact parallels of the Stuarts. After enduring his imprisonment for nearly six years, the prince succeeded in effecting his escape by a clever disguise on the morning of the 26th May 1846, and returning to England once more took up his quarters in London.

It was nevertheless the fate of this extraordinary man to attain the object of his wishes. The revolution of February 1848 dethroned the prince who had conducted the difficult government of France for eighteen years. The series of events which quickly followed brought penitence upon the nation, and the necessity was felt for some *personality* apart from the two branches of the Bourbon family, round which the people could rally in their efforts to regain, at whatever cost, a firm order of things. At the close of September, Louis-Napoleon was elected a representative for the department of the Seine by a large majority. He appeared at Paris, and quickly became the centre of a powerful party. On the 10th of December he was elected President of the Republic by an immense majority over his competitors: the votes for him being 5,534,520 against 1,448,302 for General Cavaignac, the candidate next on the lists, and shortly afterwards elected Emperor of the French under the title of Napoleon the third.

In the extraordinary rise of Louis-Napoleon, the name seems to have once more a chance of showing itself in a right relation to mankind. The people of France desire to see the nephew of their great Emperor taking the duty of consolidating their republican institutions. If he does so in the self-denying spirit of a Washington, he will secure for himself an illustrious name. And whatever may be the difficulties under which the Napoleon family arrived at the great power they once held, it cannot be denied that they possessed in a high degree a full appreciation of the misrule which existed throughout Europe at that time, when the doctrine of the day was the luxury of the few in opposition to the misery of the multitude, and we hope the present ruler of France will, even as he now seems disposed to do—advocate the divine law of justice with love to our fellow-men, and maintain the progress of civilisation against the attacks of absolute barbaric despotism.

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